**Homework Policy**

Homework is defined as the time the children spend outside the classroom in assigned learning activities by their own school. Peter’s Patch believes the purpose of homework should be to practice, reinforce, or apply acquired skills and knowledge.

In Peter’s Patch we operate a Homework Club with a designated time slot which is incorporated into our After School routine. We will aim to provide each child with a realistic time frame to spend on their homework so that every child gets an opportunity to do some of their homework. If a child is intentionally not doing their homework even with encouragement from staff they may or may not be able to have longer to complete it depending on the routine set for that day. Therefore staff will really encourage children to complete their homework during the time given. Encouragement from parents on this matter is greatly appreciated.

We try to keep our homework room as quiet as possible through the provision of activities and outside time (weather permitting) so that children can concentrate on the work that has to be done. Children not completing homework are reminded to be considerate of other children doing their homework.

Children are supervised by staff who will check and ensure that all homework is completed, and help is given to those children who require it. Ultimately it is the responsibility of all parents to check their children’s homework to ensure it is done to a standard which they are happy with, therefore no problems should arise.

Homework serves to develop regular study skills and the ability to complete work out of the classroom independently. Peters Patch further believes completing homework is the responsibility of the children, and as children mature, they are more able to work independently. Therefore, childcare workers provide a supportive role through monitoring completion of homework’s, encouraging children’s efforts and promoting a conducive environment for learning.

Peters Patch embraces the idea that each child is different and therefore has their own individual needs. We see homework as an opportunity to tailor lessons specifically for an individual child, meeting them where they are and bringing them to where we want them to be.

Homework contributes towards building responsibility, self-discipline, and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of Peter’s Patch staff to supervise and help children with relevant, challenging, meaningful, and purposeful homework’s that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply and extend the information they have learned.

Our staff will be on hand to offer their guidance and supervision but cannot check homework is correct as they are not qualified teachers.

**Procedure**

* The children who are in early will do their homework in the After-school room before the older children join them.
* Staff will supervise the homework session.
* Support will be given if the child requests it. (Individual attention cannot be accommodated).
* Parents/guardians must check their individual child’s homework and sign homework diary if needs be.
* Where a homework requires the use of a computer or additional materials they must be completed at home. (Unless Peter’s Patch have the required materials we will encourage them to complete it here)
* Management reserves the right to defer homework at any given time to facilitate participation in special activities or events. (Where possible parents will be notified in advance.)
* Any Child who is disruptive or who is not interested in completing his/her homework will be moved to another idea and if they continue to be disruptive or are not interested in completing his/her homework will be asked to tidy up and return to regular activities and his/her parents will be advised accordingly.

**Updated:29/10/2024**